

Three apparently new Coccids (Homopt.: Coccoidea) from Eritrea.

by

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Among a small collection of scale insects submitted by the Entomological Section of the Department of Agriculture, Asmara, Eritrea, three apparently new species were found and are herein described.

The holotype of each species will in due course be deposited in the British Museum (N.H.), London, and a paratype in the U. S. National Collection of Coccidae, Washington D. C., U.S.A. The remaining paratypes are in the collection of the Department of Agriculture, Nairobi, Kenya.

***Pulvinaria crotonis* sp. n. (Fig. 1.).**

Body of the adult female elongate or broadly oval, asymmetric, moderately to strongly convex in the centre; colour in dried specimens evenly brown on the dorsum, almost black on the venter. Length in mounted specimens 9 to 12 mm; breadth 5 to 8 mm. Ovisac rather short extending in the individuals examined from 7 to 11 mm., apparently without any longitudinal groove or striation; colour pale brown. Derm of the dorsum remaining membranous at maturity, without any distinct areolation, and provided with minute bilocular glands, numerous circular pores having an apparently granulated disc and a few small conical spines. Submarginal tubercles absent. Anal plates together a little longer than wide, with two apical and one subapical stout truncate spines; another similar spine is inserted more or less on the middle of the internal margin; surface irregularly and obscurely reticulated. Marginal spines closely set, 0.034 to 0.043 mm. long, very robust, conical and bidentate at the tip. The margin between the spines is often provided with a small circular gland having a quadrilocular orifice. Ventral surface of the abdomen with very abundant small tubular ducts which extend also on to the median area of the thorax. Multilocular disc pores small and crowded all around the genital opening and arranged in irregular rows along the distal margin of the five preceding segments. Stigmatic cleft with 4 to 7 slightly curved or straight spines of various size having the tip rounded; the longest spine is about twice the length of those of the marginal fringe. Just about the insertion of

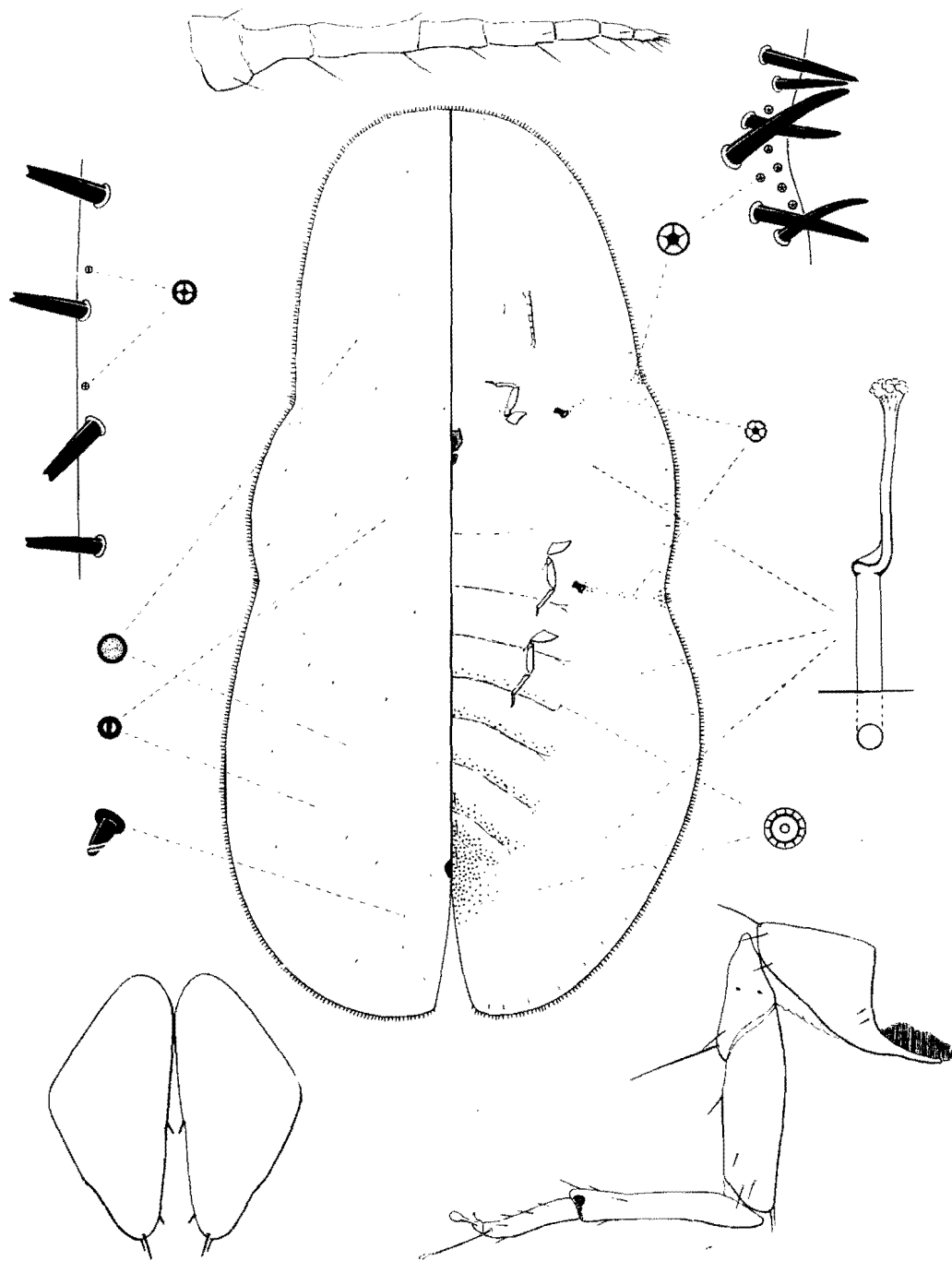


Fig. 1. *Pulvinaria crottonis* sp.n.

the stigmatic spines the quinquelocular pores are a little larger than the remainder. Ventral submarginal setae small and set widely apart. Antennae small, normally 8-jointed. Legs also small with a free tibio-tarsal articulation and an articulatory sclerosis; claw with a small basal tooth.

ERITREA, Ghescinascim: 4.III.1953; 8 mounted ♀♀ collected on twigs of *Croton macrostachys* Hochst. (Dr. V. Nastasi).

This species comes very close to *Pulvinaria inopheron* (Laing) described from Kampala, Uganda, on *Erythrina* sp. as a *Lecanium* (= *Coccus*) (Bull. ent. Res. 16:57—58). Specimens are at hand from Nairobi, Kenya, collected on branches of *Croton macrostachys* Hochst. which agree in every detail with Laing's description and figure. Since all of them were found provided with an ovisac, which attained a length of 58 to 65 mm., the species is here regarded as a *Pulvinaria*. Quite evidently the specimens in alcohol studied by Laing were adult females not at full maturity.

Under the microscope the two species can be separated by the different size of the second and third antennal joints and by the arrangement of the marginal quadrilocular glands which in *P. inopheron* are very numerous and form a continuous, although irregular, line all around the body margin.

Eriococcus etbaicus sp. n. (Fig. 2).

Adult female completely enclosed in a felted whitish ovisac about 2.5 mm. long and 1.5 mm. broad.

Body of young adult females elongate, becoming broadly ovoid at full maturity; length in mounted specimens 1.7 to 2.3 mm. Dorsal surface with numerous very stout spines, somewhat variable in size, more or less curved and truncate at the apex; spines close to the median line of the thoracic and abdominal segments noticeably longer and tending to be straight. Tubular ducts moderately large and having their inner ends deeply invaginated and fairly chitinised. Also on the dorsum there are several small tubular glands each provided with two slender slightly chitinised ducts which open through a bi-horned membranous process. Anal lobes well developed, cylindrical and chitinised, having a small elongate bar on the ventral side. Anal ring with 8 setae. Ventral surface with a few large tubular ducts similar to those of the dorsum, mainly on the head and last abdominal segments. Few quinquelocular pores occasionally occur just around the stigmas and others are scattered all over the prosoma, whilst on the abdominal segments they are more numerous and arranged in transverse rows. Other very small oval glands with a single elongate orifice occur along the margin of the body. Multilocular disc pores absent. Body setae rather short and slender. Antennae 7-jointed. Legs well developed with a small apical tooth on the claw.

ERITREA, Debaroa: 20.VI.1952; 12 mounted ♀♀ collected on branches of *Acacia etbaica* Schwf. (Andemeschiel Tuoldehaimanot).

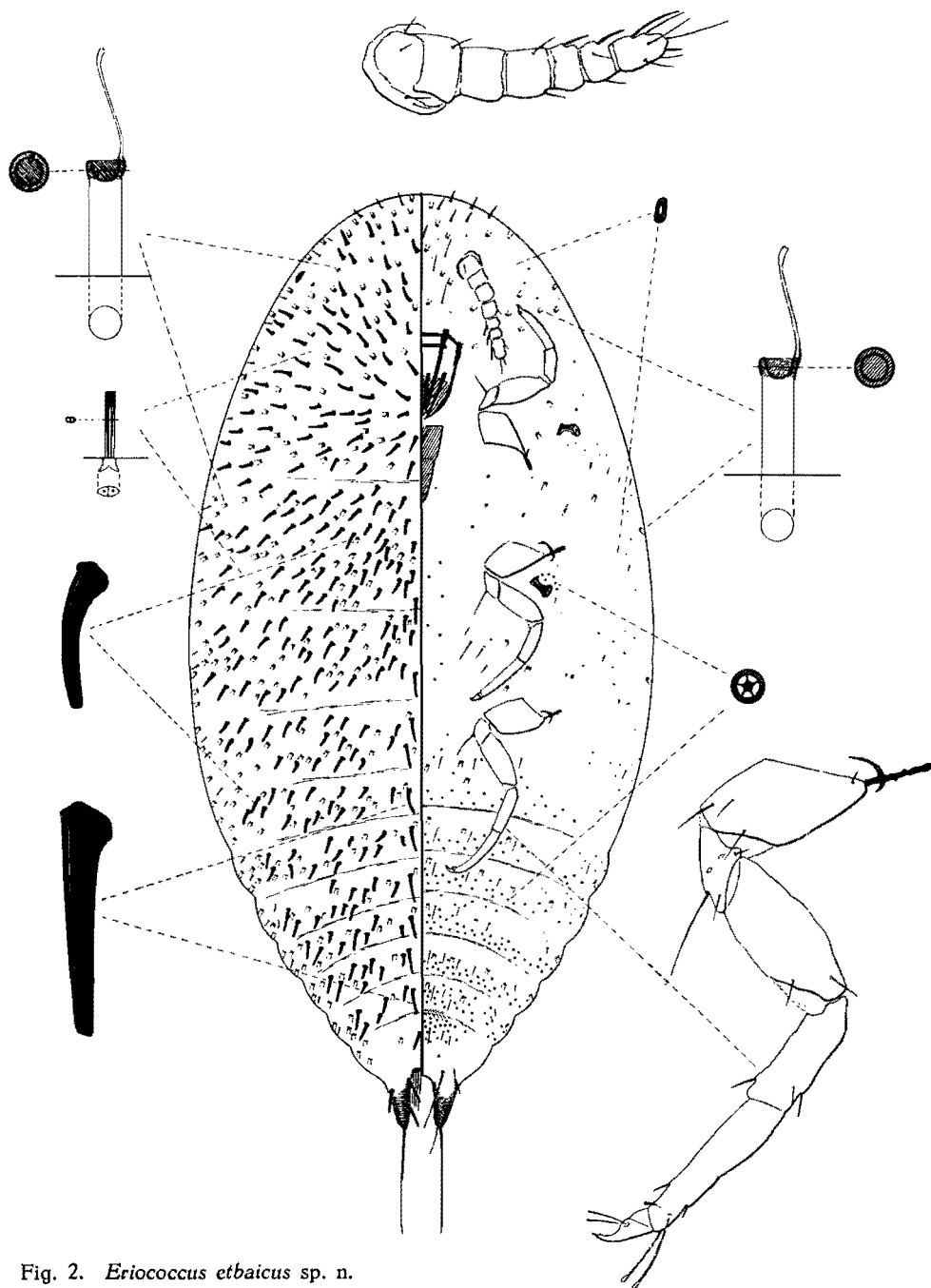


Fig. 2. *Eriococcus etbaicus* sp. n.

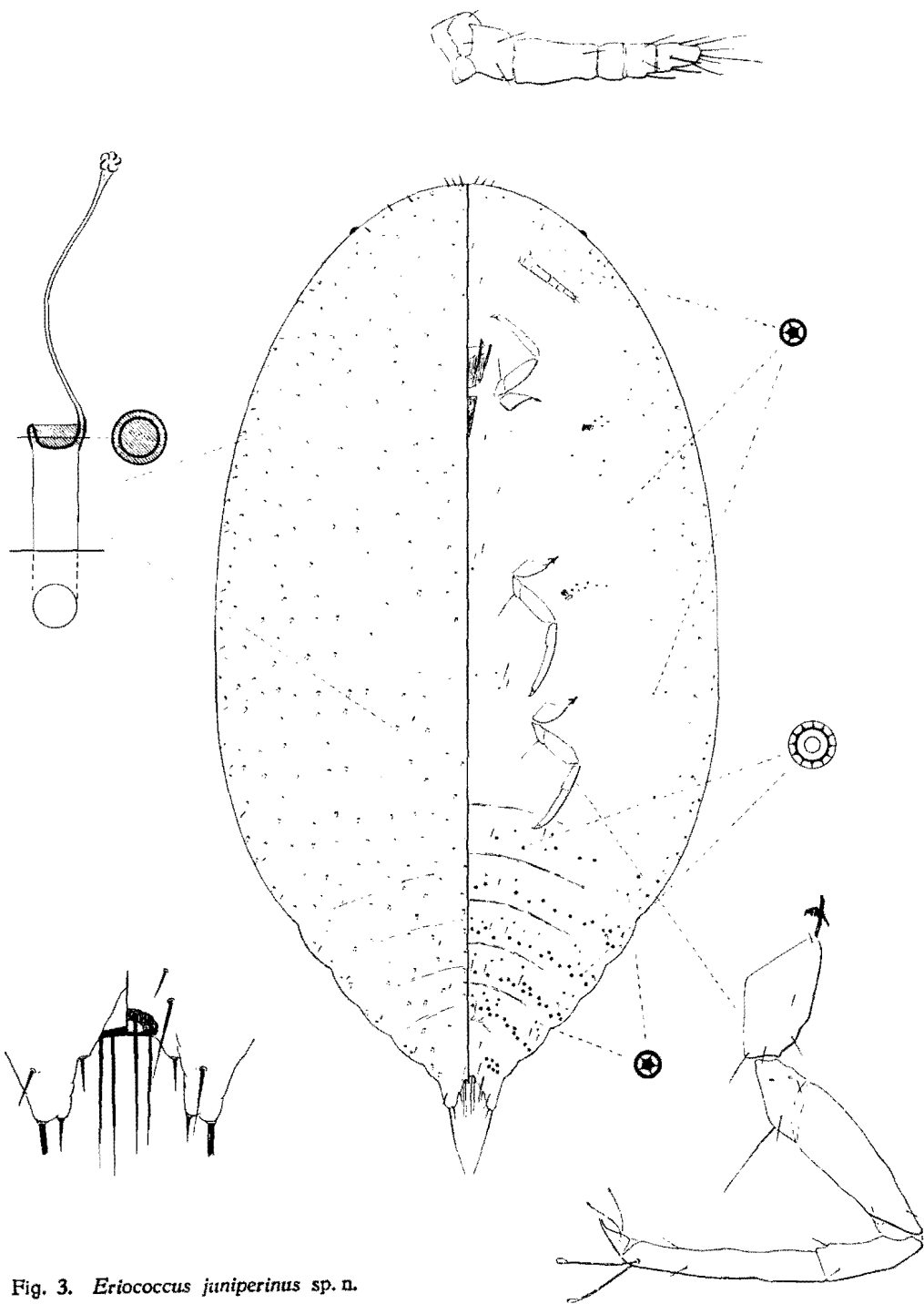


Fig. 3. *Eriococcus juniperinus* sp. n.

***Eriococcus juniperinus* sp. n. (fig. 3).**

Adult female enclosed in a thin white or dirty white ovisac about 2.3 mm. long and 1.3 mm. in diameter.

Body of the adult female elongate ovoid, tapering at both ends. Length in mounted specimens 1.5 to 2 mm. Dorsum evenly beset by numerous large tubular ducts having the internal end deeply invaginated and fairly chitinised. Spines not conspicuous and limited to a few along the body margin which tend to be progressively smaller towards the posterior end. Anal lobes more or less cylindrical and very slightly chitinised at the apex. Anal ring with 8 setae. Venter with quinquelocular disc pores mostly arranged along the margin and occasionally a few just about the stigmata and the abdominal segments. Multilocular disc pores arranged in transverse rows on the five or six ultimate abdominal segments. Body setae few and slender. Antennae 5- or 6-segmented. Legs normal with a small tooth at the apex of the claw.

ERITREA, Saganciti: 27.XII.1952; 7 mounted ♀ ♀ collected on *Juniperus procera* Hochst. (Andemeschiel Tuoldehaimanot).